

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 08703 212032Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 /075 W

----- 070315

P R 211815Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7285

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 8703

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: SHAKE-UP IN AIR FORCE -- POGGI NEW AIR MINISTER

1. OCTOBER 20 PRESS HAS REPORTED DESIGNATION OF LABOR MINISTER LT. GENERAL DANTE POGGI MORAN AS AIR MINISTER TO REPLACE LT. GENERAL CESAR PODESTA JIMENEZ WHO WAS RETIRED "AT HIS REQUEST". AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF LT. GENERAL CESAR YEPEZ ZAPATERO AND HEALTH MINISTER LT. GENERAL FERNANDO MIRO QUESADA ALSO WERE REPORTED TO HAVE REQUESTED RETIREMENT. LOCAL PRESS NOTED THAT AIR FORCE CHANGES WERE PURSUANT TO "AN INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT" WHICH IS MEANT TO IMPLY AN APOLITICAL INTERNAL AIR FORCE MATTER. THE CHANGE LEFT TWO OTHER CABINET VACANCIES --LABOR AND HEALTH. PAF MAJOR GENERAL LUIS GALINDO CHAPMAN HAS NOW BEEN NAMED LABOR MINISTER AND MAJOR GENERAL JORGE TAMAYO IS NEW HEALTH MINISTER.

2. COMMENT: CATALYST FOR AIR FORCE SHAKE-UP APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN EFFORT OF AIR FORCE MINISTER PODESTA TO IMPOSE HIS WILL UPON PROMOTION PANELS (SEE IR 6 876 0223 75 FOR COMPREHENSIVE SCENARIO). DISSATISFIED PAF OFFICERS TOOK CONTROL OF LAS PALMAS AIR BASE AND THE AIR MINISTRY OCTOBER 18 AND DEMANDED REMOVAL OF PODESTA. OUTCOME OF OCTOBER 18 DELIBERATIONS OF PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ WITH JUNTA AND AIR FORCE GENERALS SERVING AS CABINET MEMBERS WAS DECISION (1) TO ACCEPT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 08703 212032Z

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENT FROM PODESTA AND AIR FORCE CHIEF OF

STAFF YEPEZ AND (2) ALSO TO FORCE INTO RETIREMENT HEALTH MINISTER MIRO QUESADA AND LT. GEN JORGE CAYO, CHIEF OF STAFF JOINT MILITARY COMMAND.

3. ALTHOUGH PAF SHAKE-UP APPEARED TO BE CAUSED BY INTERNAL AIR FORCE ISSUE WITH NO APPARENT POLITICAL FOUNDATION, IT DOES HAVE BROADER AND POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. WITHIN THE AIR FORCE IT LEAVES GENERAL POGGI AS THE SOLE SURVIVING LT. GENERAL. SUBJECT ONLY TO MORELES BERMUDEZ' CONCURRENCE, HE SHOULD HAVE A RELATIVELY FREE HAND IN APPOINTMENTS TO THE THREE AIR FORCE LT. GENERAL VACANCIES, WITH REMAINING VACANCIES TO BE ADJUSTED NEXT PROMOTION CYCLE. THIS SHOULD STRENGTHEN MORALES BERMUDEZ' POSITION WITH AIR FORCE. HOWEVER, IT IS CURIOUS THAT FORTUNES OF COMMERCE MINISTER ARIAS GRAZIANI WHO HAS BEEN DEEMED A VELASQUISTA AND THEREFORE NOT NECESSARILY A SOLID SUPPORTER OF MORALES BERMUDEZ, MAY HAVE BEEN IMPROVED BY REVOLT AND SUBSEQUENT CHANGES. MORALES BERMUDEZ MIGHT HAVE TAKEN THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RETIRE ARIAS, YET HE NOW REMAINS WITH EXCELLENT CHANCE OF PROMOTION TO LT. GENERAL AND POSSIBLE DESIGNATION AS AIR MINISTER UPON RETIREMENT OF POGGI IN 1977. GENERAL POGGI ALTHOUGH APPOINTED LABOR MINISTER BY VELASCO, WAS NEVER CONSIDERED TO BE WITH ARIAS IN LEFT-LEANING VELASQUISTA CAMP. POGGI IS USUALLY CATEGORIZED AS A REVOLUTIONARY "MODERATE" MUCH LIKE MORALES BERMUDEZ.

4. VACANCIES IN LABOR AND HEALTH MINISTRIES GAVE MORALES BERMUDEZ THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPOINT FULLY LOYAL MINISTERS DEPENDENT UPON HIM. HE HAS APPOINTED MAJOR GENERAL LUIS GALINDO CHAPMAN, WHO WAS AIR FORCE CHIEF OF PLANS, AS NEW LABOR MINISTER AND MAJOR GENERAL JORGE TAMAYO AS HEALTH MINISTER. BOTH ARE CONSIDERED MODERATES IN PERUVIAN CONTEXT. MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN HEALTH AND LABOR PORTFOLIOS HAVE LONG BEEN RUMORED (MIRO QUESADA WAS A VELASCO HOLD-OVER AND POGGI WAS DISCONTENTED IN PRIOR POST AND OBJECT OF MUCH CRITICISM IN LABOR MINISTRY). BOTH HEALTH AND LABOR MINISTRIES THUS REMAINED IN AIR FORCE HANDS, BUT A LABOR MINISTRY CIVILIAN ADVISOR IS RUMORED TO BE IN LINE FOR LABOR VICE MINISTER, A POSITION NORMALLY RESERVED FOR AN AIR FORCE COLONEL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LIMA 08703 212032Z

5. WITH THESE CHANGES MORALES BERMUDEZ HAS NOW PERSONALLY APPOINTED THE MAJORITY OF CABINET. REMAINING HOLD-OVERS FROM VELASCO PERIOD IN ADDITION TO JUNTA MEMBERS POGGI AND PARODI ARE AGRICULTURE MINISTER GALLEGOS, FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR, FOOD MINISTER HOYOS, COMMERCE MINISTER ARIAS, EDUCATION MINISTER MIRANDA AND HOUSING MINISTER PAREDES. MORALES BERMUDEZ HAS NOW NAMED TWO OF THE THREE JUNTA MEMBERS AND ALL

THREE ARE CONSIDERED TO SUPPORT HIM.

6. MORALES BERMUDEZ, FACED WITH AIR FORCE FAIT ACCOMLI ON OCTOBER 18, APPEARS TO HAVE ACTED ASTUTELY. RESULTING CHANGES IN THE JUNTA, IN THE CABINET, AND AIR FORCE SHOULD BUTTRESS HIS POLITICAL SUPPORT. YET A SHAKE-UP WITHIN THE AIR FORCE NOT TWO MONTHS INTO THE MORALES BERMUDEZ REGIME IS NOT A NOTABLY FAVORABLE SIGN FOR LONG-TERM MILITARY GOVERNMENT STABILITY. MORALES BERMUDEZ DID NOT PRECIPITATE THE SHAKE-UP; HE WAS FORCED TO REACT TO IT. THERE ARE ALSO A FEW SIGNS OF DISSENSION IN THE ARMY, AND THIS SUCCESSFUL AIR FORCE INTERNAL SHAKE-UP ON THE HEELS OF THE JUNE NAVY REVOLT AND THE AUGUST COUP ITSELF COULD ALSO LEAD TO REVERBERATIONS IN SENIOR ARMY POSITIONS.
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, AIR FORCE, REORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA08703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750365-0536
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751033/aaaabdmq.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <09 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHAKE-UP IN AIR FORCE -- POGGI NEW AIR MINISTER
TAGS: PINT, MILI, PE, (POGGI, DANTE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006